



HR1315

LRB100 24058 MST 43162 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to congratulate State Rep. David Harris on  
4 his distinguished service to the 53rd and 66th Legislative  
5 House Districts and the people of Illinois; and

6           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris was a member of the Illinois House  
7 from 1983 to 1993 and 2011 to 2018 and served the body with  
8 honor and distinction; and

9           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris is known and respected for his  
10 expertise in budgeting and appropriations, serving all of his  
11 18 years in the General Assembly on the House Revenue & Finance  
12 Committee and several as the Republican Spokesperson for the  
13 Committee; and

14           WHEREAS, The people of suburban Cook County have been  
15 well-served by the leadership and bipartisanship of Rep. Harris  
16 during his tenure in the Illinois House of Representatives; and

17           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris graduated from Saint Viator High  
18 School in Arlington Heights, Georgetown University in  
19 Washington, D.C. with a degree in government, and the U.S.  
20 Army's Command & General Staff College; he also took courses at  
21 the U.S. Army War College; and

1           WHEREAS, After serving five terms in the General Assembly,  
2           Rep. Harris left state government to become the Senior Vice  
3           President of the Illinois Hospital Association; and

4           WHEREAS, In 1999, Rep. Harris returned to government  
5           service when the Governor appointed him as The Adjutant General  
6           (Commanding General) of the Illinois National Guard, a position  
7           he held until 2003; and

8           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris was inducted into the Ft. Benning  
9           Infantry Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame in 2002 and  
10          retired from the Army in 2003 with the rank of Major General  
11          after serving his country for 33 years; and

12          WHEREAS, Rep. Harris served in Iraq from 2005 to 2006 with  
13          the U.S. Department of State after he retired from the military  
14          and was the Deputy Director and Chief of Staff of the Iraq  
15          Reconstruction Management Office; and

16          WHEREAS, Rep. Harris is a Life Member of the Association of  
17          the U.S. Army, the Military Officers Association of America,  
18          the National Guard Association of the U.S., and the Illinois  
19          National Guard Association; and

20          WHEREAS, Rep. Harris and his wife, Michelle, raised their

1 family in Arlington Heights; together, they are the proud  
2 parents of two adult children, Court and Jonathan; and

3 WHEREAS, Rep. Harris served as the ranking Republican on  
4 several influential House Committees, including the Revenue &  
5 Finance and Appropriations-General Service Committees; and

6 WHEREAS, Rep. Harris always promoted honest dialogue on all  
7 points of view on legislative issues and has been a fierce  
8 advocate for balanced budgets and responsible spending; and

9 WHEREAS, During his 18 years in the House of  
10 Representatives, Rep. Harris ushered 57 bills into law as the  
11 Chief Sponsor and championed dozens of other bills as a Chief  
12 Co-Sponsor or Sponsor; and

13 WHEREAS, Rep. Harris assisted the Illinois National Guard  
14 by authoring Illinois Public Act 99-0796, which established a  
15 Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for the State of  
16 Illinois similar to the federal UCMJ; and

17 WHEREAS, Rep. Harris showed his support of the environment  
18 by serving as the Chief House Sponsor of Public Act 98-0442,  
19 which requires a certain percentage of vehicles used in  
20 Illinois by the Central Management Services (CMS) fleet to be  
21 alternative powered vehicles; and

1           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris addressed the issue of delinquent  
2 child support by championing Public Act 98-0466, which requires  
3 casinos and racetracks to deduct child support from the  
4 winnings of individuals who have been flagged as owing child  
5 support; and

6           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris showed support for animal welfare by  
7 serving as the Chief House Sponsor of Public Act 98-0855, which  
8 increased penalties for those associated with puppy mills; and

9           WHEREAS, Rep. Harris has been honored with a multitude of  
10 awards and recognitions during his time in the General  
11 Assembly, including the Legislative Achievement Award from the  
12 Illinois Enterprise Zone Association, the Friend of  
13 Agriculture Award from the Illinois Farm Bureau, the Guardian  
14 of Small Business Award from the National Federation of  
15 Independent Business/Illinois (NFIB), the Champion of Free  
16 Enterprise Award from the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, the  
17 Friend of Manufacturing Award from the Illinois Manufacturers'  
18 Association, the Legislator of the Year Award from the Illinois  
19 Association of County Auditors, and a Recognition Award from  
20 the Illinois Municipal League for his support of legislation  
21 related to municipalities; therefore, be it

22           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
2 congratulate State Rep. David Harris on his retirement,  
3 recognize him for making a positive difference in the lives of  
4 the people he represented in suburban Cook County and across  
5 Illinois, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors;  
6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 presented to Rep. Harris, his wife, Michelle, and their family  
9 as an expression of our esteem and respect for our colleague  
10 and friend.